

### ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a method for separating or combining a plurality of wavelengths in a WDM fiber optic system. This technique can be used in a variety of ways to more readily fabricate multiplexers and de-multiplexers using both multilayer thin film or fiber Bragg grating filters or a combination thereof. The invention can also be used, in part, to fabricate an odd/even channel separator to facilitate the use of wider bandwidth filters in applications where narrow bandwidth filters are required.